

PASTOR'S CORNER

From the Desk of Pastor Daniel Simmons

Book of the Month

Higher Is Waiting

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Scripture Readings:

Caring for Others (NIV)

Week of *March 4*

Proverbs 19:17; 21:13; 28:27

Week of *March 11*

Philippians 2:4; Galatians 6:2;
Romans 12:10

Week of *March 18*

Galatians 2:10; James 1:27;
Psalm 35:10

Week of *March 25*

Ephesians 4:32; John 13:24-35;
Matthew 25:40

Letter of Intent

(Many Members, One Body)

“...that is, that we may be mutually encouraged by each other’s faith, both yours and mine.” ---Romans 1:12

I stepped out of my house a few days ago to retrieve mail from the mailbox. Once I was back inside, I plopped down on the couch to open the bills and filter through the junk mail. Just as I was about to throw away the torn envelopes, one last piece of mail caught my attention. It was a ‘*letter of intent*’ that fulfilled its purpose and *blessed me in a way that I never expected...*

The sender made it clear that I was receiving the letter because at that specific time it was being written, I was on the sender’s mind. The letter went on to express how appreciated I am for just being me – separate from my ministry calling, separate from where I come from, where I go, who I know, and what I do. I was showered with appreciation simply because I am...*me!*

I admit that as I continued to read this wonderful letter, I wondered what the ‘*catch*’ was. But, by the letter’s end I had to ask God to forgive me. The letter was from a genuine and sincere spirit. As it turned out, the sender was going through tough times and was considering giving up on some goals. But then, God brought me to mind, and the mere thought of me conjured up hope and great expectations! As it turns out, some years back I came across a family who had fallen on some hard times. I encouraged them and did what I could to assist them until things got better. Although I never heard from them since that time, I believed that everything worked out.

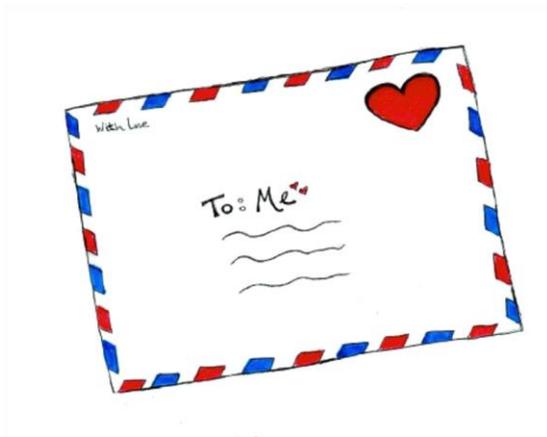
This letter came from one of the children in that family. Now a grown adult, the familiarity of hard times had raised its ugly head again. But, because of the lasting impression I made when I spent time and shared

my resources with that family – the sender was reminded that no matter how tough life may get, there is always something better to expect and look forward to. The encounter with me left an impression that now served as a game changer for the life of another individual.

I never expected to receive such a soul-wrapping hug through the mail. I sat and read that letter several times because of the effect it had on my spirit. I imagine what I felt was reciprocation of what the sender felt because of that *moment in time* when our lives crossed paths.

Simple deeds of kindness done for others opens the window for souls to experience the hope, love, and truth about the awesome God we serve! The depth of a seed planted in love is sure to blossom forth with much more fruit of the Spirit! The distance the fruit travels is endless! If just plain me can do that and be blessed in return with a letter that says ‘*my helping them then is still making a difference right now for the future of another person*’ – imagine what it can be like if we all were to take more *intentional time* to *thank God* for the many *moments of hope* that He provides us along the way?

I’m thinking of someone right now who I know God sent my way to make a difference in my life. I’m going to write a letter of intent to appreciate and encourage this person, and I’ll put it in the mail today. I encourage you to ask God to impress upon you someone to share your gratitude with. And while you’re at it, be sure to thank God daily for the letter of intent he sent to each of us in the form of His Darling Son, Jesus Christ.



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